

By: King of Uvalde

H.B. No. 3618

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to water quality permitting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 26.0135(d), Water Code, is amended as follows:

(d) As required ~~[In the appropriate year of the cycle provided]~~ by commission rules ~~[adopted to implement Section 26.0285]~~, each river authority shall submit a written summary report to the commission, State Soil and Water Conservation Board, and Parks and Wildlife Department on the water quality assessment of the authority's watershed. The summary report must identify concerns relating to the watershed or bodies of water, including an identification of bodies of water with impaired or potentially impaired uses, the cause and possible source of use impairment, and recommended actions the commission may take to address those concerns. The summary report must discuss the public benefits from the water quality monitoring and assessment program, including efforts to increase public input in activities related to water quality and the effectiveness of targeted monitoring in assisting the permitting process. A river authority shall submit a summary report after the report has been approved by the basin steering committee and coordinated with the public and the commission. A river authority shall hold basin steering committee meetings and shall invite users of water and wastewater permit holders in the

1 watershed who pay fees under Section 26.0291 to review the draft of  
2 the work plans and summary report. A river authority shall inform  
3 those parties of the availability and location of the summary  
4 report for inspection and shall solicit input from those parties  
5 concerning their satisfaction with or suggestions for modification  
6 of the summary report for the watershed, the operation or  
7 effectiveness of the watershed monitoring and assessment program  
8 authorized by this section, and the adequacy, use, or equitable  
9 apportionment of the program's costs and funds. A river authority  
10 shall summarize all comments received from persons who pay fees  
11 under Section 26.0291 and from steering committee members and shall  
12 submit the report and the summaries to the governor, the lieutenant  
13 governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives not later  
14 than the 90th day after the date the river authority submits the  
15 summary report to the commission and other agencies.

16 SECTION 2. Sections 26.0285 and 26.0405, Water Code, are  
17 repealed.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.